

60-466

DOE review completed.

1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
THROUGH: Deputy Director/Intelligence
SUBJECT: Increase in 1959 Krypton Measurements
Indicating New Plutonium Production Data

1. This memorandum is for your information only.
2. The annual review of krypton releases attributable to Soviet plutonium production has recently been completed. These new data indicate an increase by a factor of about two during the last fiscal year in the annual rate of Soviet plutonium production derived from krypton releases. For example, Krypton indicated the Soviets produced about 850 kilograms of plutonium in FY 1958. It now indicates they produced about 1770 kilograms of plutonium in FY 1959.

21 JAN 1960

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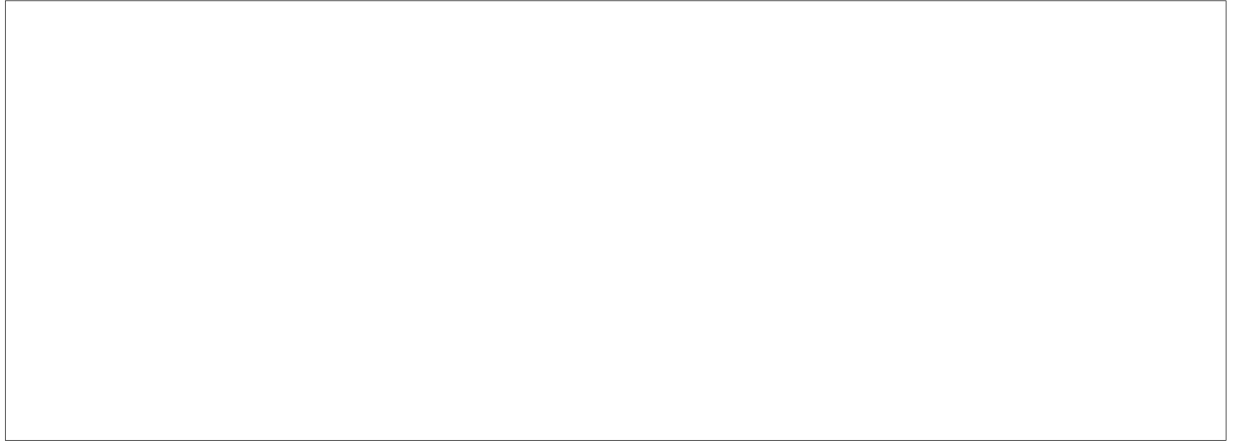
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4. This fantastic rise in Soviet krypton releases calls for a detailed re-examination of all related evidence to determine if it is, in fact, a valid and consistent index of Soviet plutonium production. The new annual NIE on the Soviet atomic energy program is under preparation, and the significance of this rise in the krypton values is being carefully studied by the JAEIC to determine its significance and meaning. Judgments on these latter points will be incorporated in the forthcoming estimate drafts.

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HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.
Assistant Director
Scientific Intelligence

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